

Historical coverage of the socio-economic life of Afghan citizens in Turkistan (The second half of the XIX century – the beginning of the XX century)

Mattiev Utkir Begmatdulobovich¹

¹ Independent researcher, Department of historical studies and source studies, Samarkand State University
e-mail: mattiyevutkir@gmail.com

-----***-----

Abstract- *The end of the XIX and the beginning of the XX centuries was distinguished from other centuries by its splendor in the civilization of mankind. The rapid development of capitalist relations and the influence of colonial wars, inspired by capitalist relations, did not cease to affect both Central Asia and its adjacent territory Afghanistan. These territories became the robbed territory between the Great Britain and the Russian Empire of the great imperialist countries. Because of the rich raw materials and resources, cheap labor force and economic base, this area remained undeveloped because of the low development of Science in the khanates, both empires could serve as a decisive material basis for the development of their economy. However, in the period under study, the gross development of capitalist relations was the main impetus for the policy of colonialism, which was the main means of replenishing the raw material base of states. As a result, the British and Russian Empire entered with the zeal of power there in order to take the khanates into their sphere of influence. For this purpose, many military and ambassadorial missions were organized by the empires. The relevance of this research work is that the object of the scientific research conducted so far is focused on more and more political activities, and since the participation of Afghan citizens living in the political life of society in Central Asia has been poorly studied, the focus has been on the social and economic life of Afghans as the main subject. Different political processes, due to social economic pressures, the Afghan citizens who came to the region of Turkistan and live permanently or temporarily among other nations also had their rightful place in the socio-economic and political life of the country. Their activity was preserved in various scientific literature, in the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the corresponding figures. It is beyond doubt that these sources justify the veracity of the information presented. Therefore, the sources related to the period under study are analyzed accordingly, it was studied and used in scientific research work.*

Keywords: General-Governor's Office, report, Archive, Chancellor, Empire, duty, Zakaspiy, Afghan, Tribe,

Amir, Gandamak, Military Governor, Neighborhood, "Garden afgon", Tsar province, Noib (local governor), Jirg, "Chamani-Bida", Jamshed, diplomacy, administration, Import, Export, pension, Military Minister.

1. INTRODUCTION

Beginning in the 30-ies of the XIX century, the British missions began to penetrate into Central Asia and the formation of pro-British groups in the Khanates forced the Russian Empire to walk "one step" ahead of the British in the colonization of the Khanates. It did not help British Empire either they tried to increase influence through trade relations or tried to sell the products several times cheaper than Russian goods. Because the Russians had begun to enter in the middle of the XVI century and their capital had achieved a superior status in the settlement of the Khanates by the XIX century. As a result, these two empires, proceeding from their own interests, went to a compromise and divided their spheres of influence among themselves. The territory of Central Asia fell on the edge of the Russian Empire. The Russian Empire also had not easily reached this territory, of course. As a result of military actions taken from 1847, the Russian Empire conquered the territory of the khanates of Central Asia and established its own colonial order.

During the period until the invasion of the Russian Empire, the basis of the peoples of Central Asia was the Turkish-speaking population, with which the Persian - Iranian-speaking peoples living side by side did not form a minority either. The reason for this is the result of socio-economic and trade relations of Turkic - speaking and Persian-Darian-speaking peoples with each other for centuries. For this reason, even after the invasion of the Russian Empire, it can not be attributed to the existence of other language-speaking peoples here.

The history of Turkestan is an integral part of the history of the peoples of Central Asia. Uzbekistan, which has chosen the path of independent development, has created new opportunities for scientific research in the field of

historical science. As a result of this, our historians have achieved great success in their scientific research. Especially at the beginning of the second half of the XIX – early XX centuries, a deep scientific analysis of the history of the totabid system of the Russian Empire in the country is being carried out. In this regard, the first president of our Republic I.A.Karimov said that with the enthusiasm of the Uzbek scientists, many very important pages of our history were discovered, first of all the history of the Timurid period, the end of the XIX-beginning of the XX century." – he can say that his thoughts are an assessment of the results achieved[1;128].

The fate of the peoples living in the territory of present-day Uzbekistan was connected with the system of despotic rule established by the Russian Empire in the country in the second half of the XIX – early XX centuries. The Governor-General of Turkestan, who embodied the rule of the peoples of the subordinate provinces, had enormous rights, one of which is the study of the history of relations between Turkestan and neighboring countries. Neighboring countries, their territories, populations, economic life, especially after the invasion of our country by the Russian Empire, the rights of our people have been violated; the long-standing relations of trade have changed.

2. RESEARCH BACKGROUND

After the second half of the 19th century, relations with neighboring countries became possible only through the Governor-General, a reliable support of the Russian Empire in Turkestan. Historical information on trade and diplomatic relations with neighboring countries can be found in the documents of the Court (Chancellery) of the Governor-General of Turkestan. Among the chancellery documents is that during the conquest of Turkestan in the second half of the 19th century, KP Kaufman, a foreign ruler of the country in the second half of the 19th century, received extensive rights from Tsar Alexander II of Russia on July 17, 1867, including "any political, border and trade relations with neighboring countries". There are also reports that such powers have been granted. The Turkestan governor-general's relations with neighboring Afghanistan's Kashgar, Kulja, and khanates (including the Bukhara emirate, however, court documents referred to Bukhara as a khanate, not an emirate) carried out through diplomatic department. On February 13, 1899, at the suggestion of the Governor-General of Turkestan, Dukhovskiy, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent representatives to Tashkent, where they served as diplomatic officers under the Governor-General of Turkestan until January 1918.

Among the documents of this agency, a lot of historical information about the relations with neighboring Afghanistan is now stored in the funds of the Central Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Sources on this issue are also common in the annual reports that must be compiled by the provincial military governors. They include among the province's full annual reports (reports are not always in order) - details of many specific events. This article focuses on the reports of the military governors of the Zacaspien region as the main source. In particular, one of the data on Turkestan's relations with Afghanistan can be found in the 1898 annual report of the military governor of the Zacaspien region, Lieutenant General Bogolyubov. According to the report based on customs officials, Caspian region imported goods in the amount of 4,977,000 rubles from Afghanistan in the reporting year. In return, they exported goods to Afghanistan in the amount of 4,742,000 rubles, including tea, cotton, wool, dried fruits, textiles, sugar, rice, and colored dyes. [2;20]

Commenting on the province's trade relations with Afghanistan, the report said that trade relations with Afghanistan was weaker than those with Iran. However, the desire of the bordering Afghan peoples to expand trade with the Caspian region was significant. In particular, with the launch of the Murgab branch of the Zacaspien Railway, the opportunities for expanding trade ties had expanded.

The authorities of the Russian Empire paid special attention to relations with Afghanistan. For example: from Afghanistan to the territory of the Zakaspien region through border posts are imported livestock and they were exempted from customs duties. The regional military governor said that the absence of friendly relations between the ruling circles of Afghanistan and Russia had a negative impact on the development of bilateral trade relations.

When thinking about the Governor-General of Turkestan and Afghan relations, it is also directly related to the domestic political events in Afghanistan. In 1863, the Afghan Emir Dust-Muhammadkhan died. As a result, a fierce struggle for the throne began, in which the former emir's son Sheralikhan won. Defeated in the struggle, Abdurahmankhan (Sheralikhan's nephew) began living in Turkestan with the permission of the Russian emperor. The Russian Empire's foreign ministry later took advantage of Abdurahman Khan's death. Abdurahmonkhan and his relatives settled in the territory of "Kavarzor" mahalla of modern Samarkand. Locals call it the "Afghan Garden." Even Abdurahman Khan began to receive a government "pension" of 10,000 rubles a year from the Russian emperor. [3; 437-439]

For the purposes of the Russian Empire, the situation was fulfilled after 10 years. With the entry of Great Britain into Afghanistan in 1878 and the signing of the Treaty of Gandamak, which was not convenient for Afghanistan in 1879 as well as the death of Sheralikhan, the internal situation became more acute. In such a situation, the Tsar government organized the event of Abdurakhmankhan's escape to his homeland [4; 104]. In reality he had not escaped, but rather, according to the instructions from above, he was quickly delivered to northern Afghanistan and Abdurakhmanhon soon became the Emir of the country.

As we get acquainted with the history of Afghanistan, Abdurakhman-Khan, who was appointed as amir in 1880, carried out a specific policy of "neutrality" during his reign for more than 20 years. In Afghanistan, the range of influence of England is reduced as much as possible. Abdurahman Khan was reportedly sympathetic to the local Indian uprising against the British on India's northwestern border. He also sent one of his generals to help the rebels. He even fired Solter Payne, the director of a military weapons factory in Kabul, and British engineers with him. The Russian Empire was pleased that the ruler of Afghanistan was in such a position with regard to Great Britain. In turn, the Russian Empire's assurances that it would not interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs in negotiations with Britain in 1872-1873 created favorable conditions for Abdurahman Khan to establish a centralized state. [5; 11] It is reported that he received 1 million 800,000 rupees from Britain in funding and used it for the defense alliance against Russia. [6; 27] It is clear that Afghanistan, Russia-Britain relations began to play the role of a separatist, and using it, the Emir of Afghanistan Abdurahman Khan tried to raise the status of his state, and in part achieved this goal.

During Abdurahman Khan's rule, Afghanistan's relations with Turkestan did not stop. In 1888, Emir's cousin, Isakhan, the ruler of the Tsar's region (which included the Mazar-i-Sharif, Sarikul, Shiburgan and Andkhai districts of the Tsar's region), revolted against Abdurahman Khan. After the suppression of the uprising, Isakhan and his son Ismail Khan retreated to the territory of the Governor-General of Turkestan. It stated that Isakhan would be granted asylum. [8; 160] Isakhan again settled in Samarkand with a large number of his relatives. He lived in this city for 21 years until the end of his life. Isakhan was granted a government "pension" of 10,000 rubles by the Governor-General of Turkestan from February 21, 1889. [9; 1]

Therefore, taking into account the above situations, the leaders of the Zakaspy region had an unbiased attitude

towards Afghanistan. Even in the reports of the regional military-governors of the following years, there were practically no changes in relations. Basically continued trade relations. Afghan merchants and mercenaries entered the territory of the region without any border barriers, according to the report of the military-governor of the zakaspy region in the year 1908. But at that time the internal situation in Afghanistan changed. As a result, trade turnover of Russia with Afghanistan is reduced and amounted to 0,2%. However, despite this, Afghan farmers and merchants living on the border took advantage of only 3000000 rubles from the raw fruit trade itself. Analyzing this situation by the head of the Department of the Russian Empire, The Council of Ministers, he intended to convey to Afghanistan the sounds of Russian manufactures through the Iranian cities of Mashhad and Turbeti-Haydar.

Russia received guarantees from, in particular its membership in the Entente in 1907, from the British government for the development of favorable trade relations with Afghanistan.

Imperial rulers have always taken into account the internal situation in Afghanistan. In particular, in 1908, 10,000 members of the Jamshedi tribe, dissatisfied with the political situation in Afghanistan, asked for a place in the Caspian region. With the help of regional officials, 7,000 of them were housed in a place called Chamani-Bida, at a cost of 15,000 rubles. [10; 44]

There is also information about the relationship in recent years. For example, the Russian Empire's Political Agency in Bukhara's April 7, 1909 reported to the Russian Foreign Ministry, №96, details a conversation between the agency's staff and an Afghan herdsman. According to him, the livestock population living between Kabul and Herat in Afghanistan reported on the situation inside the country, and because of the unfavorable conditions for the cultivation and sale of livestock. In these case he was captured while driving 4000 sheep down to the Marv oasis the Transcaspian region. According to him, 130 members of the Afghan tribes complained to the Emir of Afghanistan, Habibullah, that the ruling circles were hindering the development of animal husbandry [11; 1]. Afghan and Iranian herders were required to raise livestock in the Transcaspian region for each well. They paid a tax of 5 tiyins and 10 tiyins for cattle. [12; 7] This information was sent to the regional military governor by Colonel Fan-Faler, the head of the Marv district of the Transcaspian region, on September 19, 1909 (at the regional office under №14076). The above two documents are the source of the Russian Empire's relations with Afghanistan.

According to them, the Governor-General of Turkestan, taking into account the foreign policy of the empire, does not pose any serious obstacles in relations with Afghanistan, but rather gives as much as possible.

Therefore, the information provided shows that the diplomatic relations of the imperial officials in Turkestan with the neighboring countries, in particular, Afghanistan, were in the interests of the empire as much as possible, and the sources cited is factual information.

3. RESEARCH RESULTS

In conclusion, it can be said that it is not a secret to many historians and politicians that the issue of Central Asia during the XIX century was the main controversial issue between the Russian and British empires. These two great empires through various means tried to strengthen their sphere of influence in Afghanistan and Turkistan and further. Thanks to the diplomatic and numerous political processes in the process of the beginning of World War I, both the British Empire and the Russian Empire were forced to jump into an alliance, forgetting both the Balkan issue, the Eastern issue, the results of the Berlin Congress, albeit temporarily. In the process, empires were forced to side with each other in a certain sense. It can be understood that the weakness of the British Empire before Germany in a certain sense forced it to side with respect to the Russian Empire. And the Russian Empire was forced to come to an agreement with the purpose of strengthening its position in the Caucasus, the Caspian Sea and especially in Central Asia.

Despite its defeat in the 1st and 2nd English - Afghan wars, when Britain knew that it would not take Afghanistan out of hand in order not to take India out of hand in any situation, it began to surround Afghanistan with various economic, military and trade agreements of its kind. For example, according to the English - Afghan Treaty of 1907, Afghanistan was able to preserve its independence only in domestic politics. Despite the fact that the British government tried to weaken the Russian Empire on the issue of the Afghan, for example, they were forced to give military and financial support to their march to the Caspian Sea region, as well as to give direction to the Russian Empire in some matters. The Treaty of 1907 granted the Russian government and its citizens the right to trade in Afghanistan. And the Afghan government did not consider the British colonization of Afghan citizens, although it literally began to be British property. They certainly tried to get out of their clutches at the level of opportunity. Emir Abdurakhman, who came to power in 1880 in Afghanistan with the support of the Russian

Empire, tried to raise the country economically and militarily, realizing that independence was not achieved only by the courage and bravery of the Afghan people. Initially, with the introduction of a single domestic market, the main impetus for the development of the country tried to eliminate the religious factor as well. He actively continued the process of centralization of the state. In the sources, there is information that Amir Abdurakhman, together with English specialists, restored a military plant in Qabul, followed the process of his work and gave relevant instructions, which in turn, together with his managerial abilities, proved that Amir Abdurakhman was also aware of modern science.

In the English-Russian Treaty of 1907, the Russian empire established its dominance in Central Asia, in some sense, made Great Britain recognized. The Russian Empire, which did not want to stop at Central Asia, tried to establish trade relations with Afghanistan and thereby strengthen its position in Afghanistan. In the process, however, the Turkmen tribes tried to exploit the ancient ties of the Bukhara and Khiva khanates with Afghanistan, especially trade and economic ties. The annual reviews of the Caspian region are the main source of lightening the extent to which these relations are located and the intensity of relations. For this reason, in order to enlighten the socio-economic life of the Afghan citizens who lived in the Caspian region, we took annual reviews of the Caspian region as a basis the small scientific research work and aimed to enlighten the socio-economic activities of the Afghan citizens who lived in other regions of the Turkistan.

REFERENCES

1. Islom Karimov O'zbekiston XXI asr bo'sag'asida. Xavfsizlikka tahdid. Barqarorlik shartlari va taraqqiyot kafolatlari. Xavfsizlik va barqaror taraqqiyot yo'lida. {Islam Karimov "Uzbekistan on the threshold of the XXI century. Threat to security. Conditions of stability and guarantees of development"}T.6. T.O'zbekiston. 1998. 128 bet.
2. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ro'yxat - 12, yig'ma jild-1983, varaq-20.
3. Novaya istoriya stran zarubejnogo Vostoka. T.-II. Izdatelstvo Moskovskogo Universiteta. 1958 s. 437-439.
4. 4.A.A.Semyonov «Begstvo Abduraxmana iz Tashkenta v Afganistan». Kaufmanskij sbornik. M., 1910.

5. 5.UzMDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} F-I-1, ruyhat-34, ish-605, varaq-11ob.
6. 6.O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ro'yxat – 12, yig'ma jild-1983, varaq-27.
7. 7.UzMDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} F-I-1, ruyhat-34, ish-686, varaq-153
8. 8.UzMDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} F-I-1, ruyhat-34, ish-686, varaq-160
9. 9.UzMDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} F-I-18, ruyhat-1, ish-136, varaq-1
10. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ro'yxat – 12, yig'ma jild-1382, varaq-44.
11. 11.O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 1, yig'ma jild-263, varaq-1-1 ob.
12. 12. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 1, yig'ma jild-263, varaq-7-7 ob.
13. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 12, yig'ma jild-1983, varaq-20.
14. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 12, yig'ma jild-1983, varaq-27.
15. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 12, yig'ma jild-1382, varaq-44.
16. O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 1, yig'ma jild-263, varaq-1-1 ob.
17. 17.O'zb. MDA. {Uzbekistan Central State Archive} Fond I-1, ruyxat – 1, yig'ma jild-263, varaq-7-7 ob.